

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE**
Tuesday, June 15, 2010 – 11:00 a.m. – Room 250 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Allen Christensen, Chair
Sen. J. Stuart Adams
Sen. Patricia W. Jones
Sen. Daniel R. Liljenquist

Staff Present:

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst
Mr. Thomas R. Vaughn, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Joy L. Miller, Legislative Secretary

Members Absent:

Sen. D. Chris Butters

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Christensen called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

2. Consideration of Appointment of Palmer DePaulis as Executive Director of the Utah Department of Human Services

Mr. Palmer DePaulis introduced himself to the Committee. He pointed out that he has 17 years of experience in state government and prior experience as mayor of Salt Lake City. Mr. DePaulis stated he is a good listener and open to hearing new ideas. He said he believes that good policy leads to fairness and good morale. He stated that he continually searches for ways to reduce costs and preserve the quality of services. Mr. DePaulis also indicated that he seeks win/win solutions to difficult situations. He conveyed his appreciation for what Ms. Lisa-Michele Church has done for the Department of Human Services (DHS) and expressed his excitement in taking on this challenge. He said he hoped to build on the direction that Ms. Church has taken with the help of the Legislature.

Mr. DePaulis responded to questions from the Committee regarding the following issues:

- the kind of innovation he will bring to the DHS
- the differences he will bring to the DHS from the previous administration
- how he will manage difficult administration/staff situations
- how he intends to set the level of delegation
- his goals for the DHS
- the appropriate role of the state with respect to pass-through monies, relative to local governments
- how much focus will be placed on the Medicaid portion of the budget and how much priority will substance abuse, mental health, and aging be given

Mr. Adam Trupp, Utah Association of Counties, commented that Mr. DePaulis would be a great addition to the department and he asked for the committee's favorable recommendation.

MOTION: Sen. Liljenquist moved to recommend to the Senate Mr. Palmer DePaulis as Executive Director of the Department of Human Services. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Adams moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Christensen adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.